

Amendments to the Specification:

BACKGROUND: Please insert the following new paragraphs for clarification immediately after the "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION" heading and before the first paragraph beginning "Web application development is in a technological transition...":

Definitions:

Atomic, Consistent, Independent, and Durable (ACID). A desirable property of databases, such that no change is partially made (atomic), all changes are consistent with the state of the database, changes do not conflict with each other (independent), and a committed change is guaranteed not to be lost (durable).

Compact Disc (CD). The optical media used for supplying source code for this application.

HyperText Markup Language (HTML). The common language on the world-wide-web used for web pages which controls presentation by "marking-up" the text with attributes like "title", "paragraph", "image", etc.

HyperText Transport Protocol (HTTP). A protocol used between web servers and web browsers which determines how web pages are requested and returned.

Java 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE). A platform provided by Sun which includes a compiler, virtual machine, and libraries for the Java language, often used to develop web applications by large business enterprises.

Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (MIME). The format used in most Internet email transactions, and in HTTP transaction, to describe non-textual data and attachments in a plain text format.

Windows NT (New Technology). An operating system released by Microsoft in July 1993. Most current versions of the Windows operating system are derivations of Windows NT technology.

Remote Procedure Call (RPC). Any kind of software-to-software programmatic request ("call") in which the two communicating software components are on different computers.

Simple Mail Transport Protocol (SMTP). The main protocol used to transmit email over the Internet.

Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP). A particular format for Remote Procedure Calls which is defined in the eXtensible Markup Language (XML) and can be sent over HTTP.

Structured Query Language (SQL). A declarative language for specifying database queries.

Transmission Control Protocol (TCP). One of two main protocols used on the Internet for computer-to-computer transmission. TCP defines a "port" number on each machine, and maintains a persistent reliable connection between them to pass data.

User Datagram Protocol (UDP). The other of two main protocols used on the Internet. UDP provides more efficient but less reliable transmission of simple messages than does TCP. UDP also

defines a "port" number on each computer.

Uniform Resource Identifier (URI). A standard way of representing a resource on the world wide web.

Uniform Resource Locator (URL). A type of URI which indicates a resource and a retrieval protocol on the Internet. A URL is what you type into the address box of a web browser to see a web page.

eXtensible HyperText Markup Language (XHTML). This is a dialect of the eXtensible Markup Language (XML) which is gradually replacing HTML. XHTML and HTML are quite similar in format, but XHTML conforms to the XML standard and HTML does not.

eXtensible Markup Language (XML). A generic format for annotating text documents with arbitrary "tags". The tags can also be used to represent arbitrary data. Because of its flexibility compared to highly-structured database data, it is often referred to as a "semi-structured" data format.

eXtensible Stylesheet Language Transformations (XSLT). A dialect of XML used to describe how to transform one XML document into another XML document.

xMind(tm). The name of the first embodiment of this invention, which is a platform for processing semi-structured data.

xMind Specification Predicates (XSP)(tm). A dialect of XML used in this invention so specify arbitrary application logic, data